

## **IN THE CLAIMS:**

The following is a current listing of claims and will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Previously Presented) A method for transferring data between a wide area network and a computer system located on a local area network, comprising:

receiving data from a content provider via the wide area network at a routing device that is connected to both the wide area network and the local area network, wherein the data is destined for the computer system located on the local area network;

the routing device receiving a signal, separate from the received data, indicating that the data is to be transferred to the computer system at a minimum quality of service(QoS);

the routing device initiating a QoS session between the routing device and the computer system in response to receiving the signal; and

the routing device sending the data to the computer system in accordance with the minimum QoS.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

the routing device receiving a request for the data to be sent from the content provider to the computer system; and

the routing device embedding priority information in the data, wherein the priority information signals that the data is to be delivered to the computer system at a rate higher than the minimum QoS.

4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
  - the routing device placing packets containing the data to be sent to the computer system in a high priority queue; and
  - the routing device transmitting the packets in the high priority queue before transmitting packets in corresponding low priority queues.
5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising:
  - the routing device formatting packets that contain the data to indicate that the data is to be transmitted in accordance with the minimum QoS, wherein said formatting further comprises inserting priority information into headers associated with the packets, wherein packets having headers with high priority information are transmitted before packets having headers with low priority information.
6. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the received signal indicates that the data is to be transferred to the computer system at a rate higher than a specified minimum rate.
7. (Withdrawn) A method for transferring data between a wide area network and a computer system located on a local area network, comprising:
  - receiving a packet of data from the wide area network at a device that is connected to both the wide area network and the local area network, wherein a header of the packet includes a first value indicating that a minimum quality of service (QoS) is being requested and a second value indicating the minimum QoS;
  - and
  - the device sending the packet to a computer system located in the local area network in accordance with the indicated minimum QoS.

8. (Previously Presented) A routing device configured to transfer data between a wide area network and a computer system located on a local area network, the routing device comprising:  
a memory having program instructions stored therein that are executable by the routing device to:

receive data from a content provider via the wide area network, wherein the data is destined for the computer system;

receive a signal, separate from the received data, indicating that the data is to be transferred to the computer system at a minimum quality of service(QoS);

initiate a QoS session between the routing device and the computer system in response to receiving the signal; and

send the data to the computer system in accordance with the minimum QoS.

9. (Previously Presented) The routing device of claim 8, wherein the wide area network is a circuit-switched or public switched telephone network infrastructure.

10. (Previously Presented) The routing device of claim 9, wherein the signal is received from a network control system server, and wherein the routing device is configured to participate in a separate QoS session between the content provider and the routing device through the wide area network based on the minimum QoS.

11. (Previously Presented) The routing device of claim 8, wherein the wide area network is a circuit-switched or packet-switched network infrastructure.

12. (Previously Presented) The routing device of claim 11, wherein the signal is received from a network control system server, and wherein the routing device is configured to participate in a separate QoS session between the content provider and the routing device through the wide area network based on the minimum QoS.

13. (Withdrawn) An article of manufacture including a computer readable medium having program instructions stored thereon that, if executed by a device, cause the device to perform a method comprising:

receiving a packet of data from a wide area network at the device, wherein the device is connected to both the wide area network and a local area network, wherein a header of the packet includes a first value indicating that a minimum quality of service (QoS) is being requested and a second value indicating the minimum QoS;

and

the device sending the packet to a computer system located in the local area network in accordance with the indicated minimum QoS.

14. (Canceled)

15. (Withdrawn; Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

a processor;

a memory coupled to the processor and configured to store program instructions executable by the processor to:

receive a packet of data sent to a computer from a content provider, wherein the content provider is on a wide area network, wherein the computer is on a local area network, and wherein a header of the packet includes a first value indicating that a minimum quality of service (QoS) is being requested and a second value indicating the minimum QoS;[[;]] and

send the packet to the computer in accordance with the indicated minimum QoS.

16. (Canceled)

17. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 15, wherein the program instructions are further executable to initiate a QoS session in response to receiving the packet between the system and the computer.

18. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 17, wherein the system is configured to participate in a separate QoS session over a circuit switched communication path between the system and the content provider, wherein the separate QoS session is based on the indicated minimum QoS.
19. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 17, wherein the QoS session uses[ing] Ethernet-defined quality of service mechanisms.
20. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 17, wherein the system is configured to participate in a separate QoS session over a packet switched communication path between the system and the content provider, wherein the separate QoS session is based on the indicated minimum QoS.
21. (Withdrawn) The system of claim 15, wherein the data sent to the computer from the content provider is streamed audio and video.
22. (Canceled)
23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7, further comprising the device initiating a QoS session between the device and the computer system in response to receiving the packet.
24. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 23, further comprising the routing device participating in a separate QoS session over a path in the wide area network between a source of the packet and the device, wherein the separate QoS session is based on the indicated minimum QoS.
25. (Withdrawn) The article of manufacture of claim 13, wherein the method further comprises the device initiating a QoS session between the device and the computer system in response to receiving the packet.
26. (Withdrawn) The article of manufacture of claim 25, wherein the method further comprises the device participating in a separate QoS session over a path in the wide area network

between a source of the packet and the device, wherein the separate QoS session is based on the indicated minimum QoS.

27. (Withdrawn) A method comprising:

a routing device receiving a set of data from a first computer system located in a first network, wherein the set of data is transmitted through the first network as part of a first quality of service (QoS) session between the routing device and the first computer system, wherein the received set of data is indicated as being destined for a second computer system located in a second network;

the routing device initiating a second QoS session between the routing device and the second computer system in response to receiving the set of data; and

the routing device sending the received set of data to the second computer system as part of the second QoS session.

28. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 27, wherein the first network is a wide area network, and wherein the second network is a local area network.

29. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 28, wherein the first and second QoS sessions ensure that the set of data is transferred from the first computer to the second computer at a guaranteed level of average latency and a guaranteed level of latency variability.